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Secretary Taft.

It is a somewhat unusual experience to possess a public servant whose usefulness and versatility are so generally recognized that when there is a question of transferring him from one high post to another the situation is like this:

Just about one-half of the people would like to see the Hon. WILLIAM H. TAFT employing his eminent legal abilities and sturdy common sense on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States; at the same time they would regret profoundly the loss of his services in the administrative office which he now fills with distinguished

Unanimously, or nearly so, the other Department ought not to lose one of the best Secretaries it has ever had; at the same time they regret that by keeping Mr. TAFT where he is the Judicial Department of the Government is deprived of his services.

And yet it is clearly impossible, under the Constitution and laws, to cut Mr. TAFT in two!

Railroads and the Public.

These are the first two sentences of the peroration of the speech upon railway regulation made in the Senate on March 12 by the Hon. CHARLES A. CULBERSON

" Already, Mr. President, the general establishment of rates throughout the United States is dictated by a body of capitalists who control the great systems, not much greater in number than the Interstate Commerce Commission, and the philosophy of this bill is to protect the public in some degree against the scifishness of this combination by conferring limited and emergency powers upon an organized, legal and impartial tribunal which will represent fairly every interest entitled to consideration, and which will be actuated and guided by principles of justice, and not the merciless and despotic standard of what the traffic will bear. And the public will ultimately com-

For "body of capitalists" read "body of specialists." For such a body it is proposed to substitute a body of inexperts. Does Mr. CULBERSON suppose that some general transformation of Interstate Commerce Commission? Some members of the present body are neither impartial nor just, at least in their posed to reflect their opinions. They make intemperate attacks upon railroads. They share the fashionable demagogical spirit. Will the passage of a job? Will the slightly increased pay

The public is to come to its own again, is it? Are the railroads no part of the public? Are the multitudes of small holders of their securities, the multitudes who work for the railroads directly or in supplying their machinery, equipment and manifold needs, no part of the

Senator Culberson and many other excellent regulators and reformers seem to think that they can interfere with or injure this vast construction of labor and capital and vet leave untouched and unharmed the rest of the United States. The theory appears to be that whatever you do to the railroads will be felt only by that monster "watered stocks and bonds."

New Jersey and the Staten Island Water Problem.

The opposition in New Jersey to allowing Staten Island to draw a temporary supply of water from her streams is the result of unnecessary panic. It comes years with those which exist to-day.

There is reason to think that some time in the future every drop of fresh | Piedmont Hotel in Atlanta, is the loveliest water in the northern half of the State will be needed for the great communities of Passaic, Bergen, Essex, Hudson not unworthy of the artist to whom it is and Union counties. The present rate attributed, PRAXITELES HERMES. It has of growth of Paterson, Jersey City, brought hundreds of thousands of pil- | political, geographical or administrative Plainfield and a score of smaller places is rapid enough to create this expecta- According to Dr. THOMAS LAWLESS, it has tion, and New Jersey statesmen sit up nights worrying over the crowding that | of an inch the average male right elbow. will begin when the half dozen tubes being bored under the Hudson get into business. The State appears to its own that bar." people to be in this peculiar position, that while no one can see any limit to the growth of its population, the limits of its available water supply are so well known as to be alarming.

New Jersey has no such illimitable supply to draw upon as New York State, which, so far as quantity goes, could rater of first rate quality. New Jersey SMITH-all mouth." has no great lake, and no great river wholly within her boundaries. Neither has she any extensive mountain system already appropriated to the two prin- ciety. And his reward is odium! cipal cities of the State, the Pequannock to Newark and the Rocksway to Jersey of that Victory-Gal are ink and great

a large quantity of water of very poor quality, runs through a low country in which the construction of great storage reservoirs is impossible. The same conditions prevail along the upper reaches of the Passaic. Yet both of these rivers supply a number of towns and cities with water, the most considerable being Hoboken, which draws from the Hacken-

sack. When the resources of these streams and of a few minor ones, all of them one village or another, are drained to the limit, the next available field is the hilly region of Sussex county with several fair sized creeks, some flowing north into New York and some into the Delaware, but affording in total no very encouraging prospect of supplying the needs of the State. Turning southward, there is no more water probably than the local towns and cities will need for their own use. The outlook seems to be, therefore, that long before the end of the century New Jersey will be appealing to New York for some hundreds of millions of gallons daily of the water

that we have to spare. It was this prospect of exhaustion of the internal supply that led to the enactment recently of a statute forbidding the sale of water supply from New Jersey sources outside the State. The constitutionality of that statute is now in litigation, but it has been upheld in the lower court, and there is no reason to doubt that the Appellate Courts will confirm the judgment. Indeed it would seem as if the State was compelled for the protection of its own inhabitants in half of the people believe that the War | the future to insist upon the principle of the measure. But the establishment of the principle is a very different matter from compliance with the demand which Staten Island is now making on a basis of inter-State comity, and upon which the welfare and development of that section of New York city so cogently depends.

> Staten Island, in fact, concedes the principle of New Jersey's right to her own waters and her prospective need for them in limiting her demand to legislation which would authorize a contract for a supply for the next fifteen years. Before the expiration of that period, her representatives who went to Trenton on Monday pointed out, New York city will have completed her own final system for the supply of all her boroughs with water for all time. Staten Island will no longer need to draw upon New Jersey. But in the existing crisis there is no other direction in which she can look for immediate relief. She has no water herself untainted by seepage from the surrounding inlets; New Jersey shuts her in on three sides, and the construction of works by which she could be supplied from Manhattan or Brooklyn-assuming that there was at present water to spare from either -would involve a delay of years.

On the other hand, the link from Bayonne to Port Richmond already exists. The mains are inadequate to character is to come over the magnified | carry the supply of 10,000,000 gallons daily which Staten Island desires, but the laying of larger ones under the narrow neck of the Kill van Kull is an language; and that may fairly be sup- engineering bagatelle. Speedy relief can assuredly be given the thirsty island from that direction.

It is quite certain, too, that New Jersey has the water to spare. The proposal is quite ready to successfully undertake this work. the rate regulation bill begin the mil- to draw the supply from Little Falls, a lennium? Will a seat in the Interstate point on the Passaic River some miles Commerce Commission never again be a above the city of Passaic. The location consolation prize for politicians out of is many miles down stream from any intake for New Jersey use, and many bring absolutely experienced, competent | times ten million gallons of water flow rate makers? If so, whence are they to past it every day in the year, including the greater part of the flowage of the Ramapo River, which, as Mr. CROMWELL has pointed out, carries 150,000,000 gallons of water daily out of New York State into New Jersey.

> The attitude of some of the New Jersey authorities, virtually that they would rather see the water go to waste than sell it to a neighboring community in sore need of it, is unworthy of the State. It may, besides, prove a costly blunder in the long run. If the time ever comes when northern New Jersey cities seek permission to impound the waters of the Ramapo within the limits of this State for their use, a refusal to grant relief to Staten Island at this time may come up against them and render it virtually impossible for them to gain the privilege, however vital it may be to their interests.

The War Against Art and Hoke.

Boiling and bitter is the campaign of the Hon. HOKE SMITH'S enemies against that illustrious statesman, cheerof confounding conditions which are fully obeying "a divine call" to be Govlikely to arise in from fifty to a hundred ernor of Georgia. The Hokesmith Victory, popularly called the "Gal in the Fountain," in the Art Gallery of the and the strongest piece of artistic sculpture ever exhibited in Crackerdom, and Newark, the Orange towns, Elizabeth, grims to Atlanta. It has developed the esthetic sense of the whole country increased from a quarter to three-fourths Yet hear the bark of envy:

> " Of course, HORR was forced into putting up " We are real sorry HOEB has a third interest t

that barroom." "The fiend who polls every crowd in saloons

declares HOER is in the lead." . " Several Milledgeville gentlemen visited 'The Gal in the Fountain ' in Atlanta and made ' contributions to charity.' That big catfish in the fountain also attracted attention. One gentleman said the catūsh was an appropriate addition to the supply the whole United States with fountain, and reminded him so much of Hoke

" HORE cannot get away from the odium of 'The

Gal." The urbanity and intellectual charm to serve as a gathering ground. Her of these remarks of various newspapers best river for municipal supply pur- speak for themselves. The odium of poses is the Ramapo, but the section | The Gal! Mr. SMITH does all for art of that stream along which potable and gives a third of the receipts to charwater could be collected and impounded ity. He has made Atlanta famous as lies almost entirely within New York an art centre from Cowaneta to Cathay. State. The two next best rivers are He has turned thirst into a charity so-

The white upturned triumphant arms

City. The Hackensack, which furnishes darkness in comparison with the Hon. HOKE SMITH. He is a mountain of snow, with the fire of genius in his insides.

Base and unworthy as are the things written about Halo Hoke, they are ethereal by the side of the caricatures by which a degraded and impotent art seeks to insult the discoverer and patron of "The Gal in the Fountain." Decrepit age and milk-toothed childhood have been impressed for this unholy service. Two specimens shall be preserved here for the use of historians of art. This already contributing to the supply of picture is by John Wesley Perkins, aged 16, of Dawson:



Young Mr. PERKINS will not rival Mr. CRUIKSHANK'S "Bottle." The lamentable state of campaign poetry in Georgia is revealed by the accompanying legend:

" If this is HOKE tied to his bar, Of which we've heard so much, We think it would be better far If he would quit the church.

For man cannot two masters serve, Although a brilliant star; Now make your choice and show your nerve, You'd better guit the bar."

The next number is "Hoke Enlightening Georgia," by an Atlanta collegian, Mr. EUGENE B. ADAMS, aged 17:



Every day these execrable shapes are made to gibber at the good man with the divine call and one-third of the bar receipts. From these hideous scratches. unfit even to be scrawled on cave walls by primitive savages, turn to contemplate the tranquil and immortal beauty of The Gal.

Mr. Dairympie's Report.

Of the report made by Mr. JAMES DAL-RYMPLE on the traction situation in Chicago, to study which he was imported from Glasgow by Mayor DUNNE after the voters had declared for "immediate municipalization" of the street railways, the mest and essence is contained in these two short sentences:

"Speaking generally I should say from m knowledge and experience of what it means to operate a municipal street railway system that the municipalities of the United States are not yet

"I would certainly recommend that the street railway department be managed by a small committee of the city council, to be chosen irrespective of politics, and that the whole internal management be placed under one permanent officer."

Unquestionably Mr. DALRYMPLE realized how improbable, with American municipal government in its present stage of development, was the attainment of such conditions as he regards as essential to municipal success in the traction business. A small committee of the City Council chosen irrespective of politics, and one permanent officer managing all the details of the enterprise, would be most unacceptable to the politicians who have been most active in the municipal ownership and

operation propaganda. Excluding politics from municipal ownership would rob it of the feature most attractive to the men now loudest in its support. Running street railway cars in the public interest would not attract them unless there was something to be got out of it "on the side."

The Isle of Pines in Geography.

In the minority report which accompanied the transmission of the Isle of Pines treaty from the committee to the Senate, the statement was made that the island is not geographically a part of Cuba. In reply to this argument a pamphlet has been prepared in which specific reference is made to about one hundred different maps and charts issued by various Governments during the last 400 years. It refers to maps issued by Great Britain, France, Germany, Holland, Spain, Italy, Mexico and the United States. All show the island, by color or by specific reference, as belonging to the entity of Cuba.

The earliest maps of Cuba include the Isle of Pines as they include Cayo Romana, Cayo Coco and other islands in Cuban waters. MERCATOR'S maps of 1628, 1634 and 1651 include the island with the mainland. An American map of 1680 shows the Isle of Pines and Cuba in green, while adjacent islands are blue and yellow, and Florida, then a Spanish possession, is in brown. CAREY'S (London) Geography of 1822 says that the Isle of Pines is included in the boundaries of Cuba. The Humboldt map of 1827, "drawn according to the astronomical observations of Spanish navigators and Baron HUMBOLDT," shows Cuba and its insular satellite in the same color. In BURR's "Universal Atlas" (New York, 1834) Cuba and the Isle of Pines are in yellow, while Porto Rico is red. GREENLEAF, BRADFORD, COLTON, MORSE, MITCHELL 2nd RAND & MCNALLY all follow the same color plan of showing Cuba and the Isle of Pines as a geographical unit. The same political possession is shown by American military maps and naval hydrographic charts.

So far as maps, atlases, charts and physical geographies, covering four centuries, may be accepted as evidence,

question should be regarded as settled. From this it would appear, conclusively, that when Spain "relinquished" the island of Cuba she did not cede" the Isle of Pines.

The De Forest Tenement House Commission found that a single year's record of casualties at tenement fires in this town included forty-one persons killed and thirty-four seriously injured. The high rate of mortality was due chiefly to the rapidity with which flames and smoke penetrate to the living apartments of a house in which openings, like dumbwaiter shafts, air shafts and staircases, extend

from the cellar to the top floor. Of several hundred fires investigated by the commission, more than a fourth originated in cellars. Consequently, in drawing up the building law that was afterward adopted by the Legislature, the commission provided that no bakery or any other "place of business in which fat is boiled" shall be maintained in a tenement house unless the establishment is wholly separated from the rest of the building by fireproof walls and ceilings.

The provision made it impossible longer to connect cellar bakeshops with street floor salesrooms by means of dumbwaiters. A bill introduced into the Legislature by Senator Coggeshall of Oneida, at the instance of the New York Retail Bakers' Association, seeks to restore the banished dumbwaiter to cellar bakeries. Similar measures have been defeated in previous Legislatures, and the present one will no doubt meet the same fate. Meanwhile, however, Senator Coggeshall of Oneida has put New York city under a new debt of gratitude which its voters are unable to discharge at the polls.

St. PATRICK was born of "decent people," according to the old song long popular in Ireland. His memory has been kept green by the loyal affection of the people of Ireland, who have honored him as no other country has honored its patron saint.

New York city's manufactures are, to a great extent, of the textile rather than the rolling mill variety. Hats, embroideries, silks, millinery goods, laces and artificial flowers are made here in vast amount. The persistent smoke nuisance is a direct injury to all these trades and industries, while its continuance would not injuriously affect chain making; billet casting, structural iron work, rope weaving and boiler riveting.

Everything Protected but the Foreign Going American Ship.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: WI foreign going shipping from our other na-tional industries in the matter of national protection against foreign competition? By estopped ourselves from protecting our foreign going marine through the instrumentality of the tariff, as our other industries are protected. There seems to be left for us only subsidies and bounties, such as other nations give their merchant shipping. But protectionist newspapers, in considerable number, make a great outcry against such What is to be done? free trade, as we have done, in respect to our shipping, for forty-five years more, and efface it from the seas? Protectionist newspapers advocate—some of them-admitting foreign built vessels to American registry. Nobody would do it if he could; but, if I would, who supposes that that would satisfy those who demand an American merchan marine? Why suppose that our shipping would thrive under full free trade, with high

protection the national policy? Admiral Dewey and the Army War College essors, have all shown that a merchant marine is needed for national defence purposes, a requirement that raises the question far above the plane of mere economics, and yet the opposition persists. Its only effect oan mean the continuation of the foreign monopoly of our foreign carrying, alike a menace to the stability of our export trade and a weakening of our national reserve

The time to build up our shipping in the foreign trade is now; we never needed it more than now. Let us have it. HARVEY D. GOULDER,

President, Merchant Marine League of the United States. CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 15.

Confidence in the American Soldier. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Permi me to thank THE SUN for the attitude taken in regard to the battle for which Gen. Wood and his soldiers were thanked by the Presi-

From now on we may expect more or less hysterical slobber on the part of the yellow agitators and others who are all too prone to cause themselves much undue anguish about matters of which they know nothing. At no period in American history has the

American soldier been guilty of slaughtering women and children intentionally. From Lexington to Santiago we find him to be the same patient, loyal fighter and sympathetic

foe that he is to-day.

The incidents at the crater, regrettable as they are, were beyond the power of the com mander to avoid. In a hand to hand fight with Mohammedan fanatics there isn't much time to exchange cards. In particular, your attitude toward Gen

Wood is a manifestation of the square dea that will appeal to all right minded Americans The United States army and navy and th National Guard are at all times worthy of the confidence of the American people. NEWBURGE, March 15. C. M. MILLER.

The Advantage. Knicker-What do you think of spelling reform?

Bocker-Fine; nobody would find out you didn' St. Pafrick's Day for Molly.

Molly dear, the time has come, so let me hea The words that I've been longin' for since last

St. Pathrick's day: 'Twas this day twelvementh that we met. Fifth avenoo. Whin I was marchin' wid the byes, an' saw ye Ye stood inside a windy of a mansion big an' grand,

An' won me heart intoirely whin ye waved yes little hand: The mansion wasn't yours, machree, but prettier Were you than your young misthress, as she stood

beside ye there. Your prisent place as lady's maid will not be yours for long.

For l'in in politics, me dear; me "pull" is fine an An' so, if you'll take pity, Moll, before a year has

You'll look from out the windy of a mansion of yer own. To-day, avic, ye'll see me whin the big parad A-riding on a charger, while the cheerin' thousands

you'll be Me heart will keep a-thumpin' till yer darlin' fac So, if you mane to have me dear, just wave yer little hand. An' shmile just like a year ago, an' I will under shtand;

whin I watch the windy, in the mansion where

The weather may be stormy, but it will not make For, if ye smile, acushla, sure the sun will seem

"Tis but a month till Aisther, an' we've time to have

Read out at mass, me dearte, so that all the Irish Will know that Molly Grogan an' yours truly Will be atin' eggs together Aisther Sunday night

MARKON E MOLOUGE

VENTION.

WASHINGTON, March 16. - The capital has been the scene this week of a convocation having for its object the advancement of certain special interests. It was formed of scores of members of the National Consular Reform Association. It might have been better had the gathering occurred a little earlier in the Congressional session, inasmuch as the matter discussed has already been acted on by the Senate and has received some, though perhaps not final, consideration in the House.

It is not often that Congress acts in a way which either is or seems to be directly contrary to public opinion and the welfare of the country. We believe that this convention represented the interests and voiced the conviction of probably not less than 95 per cent. of the American people. The demand for an improved consular service, for the best service and the best system, is practically unanimous. There is probably no man in Congress who would advocate an inferior service, but there is evident failure in that body to concur in the opinion of the Administration and of our commer cial bodies regarding the best means of securing a superior service. It seems to us that the position taken by Congress is quite indefensible. Admitting that the action thus far taken on the Lodge bill provides for a better service than we now have, the fact stands that it does not provide for as good a service as we might have and should have.

In his address to the members of the con vention the President said:

Make the entrance to the service as far as possib non-partisan and make it at the lower grades, so that desirable positions shall come to those who have rendered good and faithful service in the lower grades, and so that those entering the lower ong and worthy career ahead of them.

In its opposition to this sound recommendation Congress occupies a very lonely position. The President is against it: the Secretary of State is against it; the country is against it; and Speaker Cannon has declared himself in line with the views of the President. If Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Cannon would put their shoulders to the consular reform wheel as they have to the really less important joint Statehood enterprise, it is probable that with the backing of the country the obduracy of the Senate and House might be overcome and the Lodge bill passed without amendment.

There is, however, one feature of the case which requires attention. The interest taken in devising a consular system should not be allowed to befog the main issue. Our consular system is a contributory influence in a larger matter than the system itself. It is intended to aid in the extension of our commerce. But it should not be forgotten that such extension is only in a comparatively small way dependent upon conditions in the consular service. An overdependence upon that particular contributory force is quite like sitting idly at home because we cannot ride to our business in an automobile.

After all, the extension of commerce does and must depend primarily upon individual initiative and activity. A better service would be a help, undoubtedly, but even with our present service our export trade has increased from \$824,860,136 for the calendar year 1895 to \$1,626,983,542 for the calendar year 1905, an increase of practi cally 100 per cent. in ten years.

An improved consular service would be valuable auxiliary in greater and more rapid increase in sales for export, and the country would be glad to see the Congress prought to a better frame of mind about the matter. Nevertheless, foreign trade may be greatly extended without an ideal consular corps. In fact, we can do a large business if we will, even with a much poorer service than we are at all likely to have.

TU THEE EDITER OF THEE SUN—Sur: That askt mee tu kum intu thee moovment tu teetsh Mr. Carnegie speling. Wy duzz hee kair tu lurn speling at I never let ennithing lyk that wurri mee. Tu spel tu wel myt injer mi orijinaliti. Wy duzzent Mr. Carnegie kut theez Shakespeare plaiz that talk from tu tu tu owers and a haff, and salv ower

preshus tym?
For instunz, "Othelo" shood not talk mear than a few wurds: "Jellus Othelo (kullurd) smuthurd his wet (wet Desdimoana last nyt, immeejatii nyfing himself Notiss ov fewnural laitur." Yoorz,

OWEN WISTER. BROWN'S MILLS-IN-THE-PINES, N. J., March 15

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Carnegle's spelling reform suggestion makes me very weary. He thinks it will simplify matters, whereas it will make spelling and reading infinitely more complicated than ever. It will take a very wise man o recognize his own language when Carnegie's rowd gets through with it, if they have their way. NEW YORK, March 16.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: After waiting at Ninth avenue and Twenty-third street for more than ten minutes in a hard storm. I boarded the first car that came along, forgetting to look at the sign. I had not gone more than five blocks when I heard a passenger exclaim: "Why, I thought ! vas on an Amsterdam avenue car." "So did ! please give me a transfer," I said.

The conductor informed us both that "we had right fer to look." Then he turned his back an muttered things that were anything but polite.
I said: "I cannot hear through the back of your head. If you are saying things I should hear He replied: "Yeez only got a block to walk over to Amsterdam, anyhow," but did not add-in

pelting rain. Then he stepped outside and slammer the doors shut in such an ugly manner that if had been a man I would have followed him and had it out with him." The conductors certainly are the gainers by this new rule, for it supplies them with still greater portunities for insolence. DAILY TRAVELLER. NEW YORK, March 16.

Indigestive Georgiana.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The lette on "Love and Indigestion" in to-day's Sun reminds me of Dickens's description of Georgiana, one of the "toadles and humbugs" who surrounded Miss Havisham: "An indigestive single woman who called her rigidity religion, and her liver love. YORK, March 15.

The Passing of the "Silver Bollar." "Sliver Dollar Smith's once famous saloon on Essex street is to be turned into a furniture factory."

—The Sun.

Elupso tempore, the East Side, too, must feel The tooth of change, the imprint of Time's heel, That tramples even where the pushcarts whee But yesterday the chronicler of "Rosey" died, And with him vanished a full score beside The Gloistein Fishing Club rowed with the ebbin

Once rivalling the gilt of Tenderloin-On "Silver Dollar" Smith's fate sets her foin Time was-not long ago-in Essex street, If one could loose a disk with deft scraped feet And steal out unobserved-why, it was meet.

None but a hero, "Long Reach Reagan's" sort, Could on those marble slabs inflict a tort For Smith would guard his treasures à la more The froth of a police court, clotted here, Was mixed with fellow froth of wine and beer Rude boot heels ground the dollars year by year

Lachesis fixes lengths for every thread And "Are atque vale" must be said. Where once the thick line of the thirsty stood, Will toll the humble laborer in wood. 'Mid ghosts that he could not have understood. Eheu fugaces! Just a passing shade,

A little stage whereon was played medy. The fo AA Silver Dollarie

THE CONSULAR REFORM CON- A TAX WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA? Two Collectors Killed-Basutos and Zulus

Talking Fight. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Though here is a good deal of reticence on the part of the Natal papers regarding the troubles in that colony and Zululand, there is enough to show that there exists a some what critical situation in the imposition and collection of the new taxes. The killing of two tax collectors in the resistance made by the natives in the Richmond district south of Pietermaritzburg resulted in the wholesale punishment of the natives by the burning of their kraals and the destruction of their crops, while quite a number, including women and children, are reported to have been killed, and no one arrested for the deaths of the

two tax collectors.

A correspondent writing to the Times of Natal from the Camperdown district stated that out of 5,549 natives liable to the poll tax only 120 so far had paid, and they were, with the exception of about half a dozen, natives in the service of whites. The recalcitrants in native areas or locations. In one case a native who had paid without having been authorized by his chief to do so was murdered. This fact of the natives looking to their chiefs for permission or orders to pay the tax is giving some concern to the colonial authorities, as it reveals an unex-pected survival of influence and authority by the chiefs over the people. Natives in service who had been called to their kraals by their chiefs when the tax was imposed returned saying they were going to pay and not fight, and appeared to be much relieved in conse-

saying they were going to pay and not fight, and appeared to be much relieved in consequence.

In the meantime, there is a great deal of unrest among the whites in autying districts, and from one there was a trek to Pietermaritzburg as the result of a scare; but this was afterward described as "a practice in tactical mobilization." Sites for laagers were being selected at different points in which the white settlers could take refuge on the first sign of danger, and await relief by the militia and other colonial forces.

Another cause of disquiet among both the natives and whites was that alleged emissaries of Dinizulu, the paramount chief of Zululand, were going about the country telling the people that the Basutos and Zulus were going to join in a war against the whites. One who was arrested stated that himself and the nine others who were sent from Basutoland to Dinizulu had been instructed by him to tell all the natives in Natal to kill all their pigs, to hide their pots and other utensils of European manufacture, to get rid of all pigs' fat, and to take of European clothing and return to the leather garments in use in the old days. Those who refused to obey these instructions would be "eaten up" by Dinizulu when war came. In one part of the country, as a result of the passage through it of these emissaries, most of the natives killed their pigs. There was fear and unrest everywhere among them.

Two other alleged emissaries who were arrested were tried along with the other for spreading alarms throughout the country, and being found guilty were each sentenced to six months imprisonment with hard labor and to receive fifteen lashes. At the time of the leaving of the mail no further indications of trouble had been reported, and Dinizulu himself had since come personally to the collector in his district and paid his tax, thus helping to relieve the situation somewhat.

New York, March 16

EDWIN BOOTH.

Should There Not Be a Monument Here

to the Greatest American Actor? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: THE Sun this morning states that there is a movement on foot to erect a statue in Central Park to Joseph Jefferson. Such a movement should surely be encouraged by every lover of dramatic art, but it appears to me there is another American actor in whose memory a monument should have been built long ago I refer to Edwin Booth, the greatest actor of his day and generation, by far the greatest actor, upon the whole, that America has ever produced.

There may have been two or three actors. like the elder Booth, for example, as Richard III. Salvini as Othello and Forrest as King Lear, who surpassed Edwin Booth in those particular rôles: but what actor ever attained the eminence of Booth in such varied parts as Hamlet, Richelieu, Iago, Bertuccio, Brutus, and Sir Giles Overreach? In these characters Booth was matchless and supreme, while he also closely rivalled, and in the opinion of many equalled, if not excelled, the actors previously mentioned in the rôles made

many equalled, if not excelled, the actors previously mentioned in the rôles made famous by them.

No actor before or since has been so revered by the American people as Edwin Booth. The tumultuous demonstrations accorded him by the people, the wild enthusiasm his genius evoked, have had no parallel since on the American stage. Such scenes are never witnessed on the stage to-day, and would be a revelation to the theatregoers of the present generation.

be a revelation to the theatregoers of the present generation.

Edwin Booth's private character was of a standard equal to his dramatic genius—gentle, generous, modest, pure and noble hearted, this great American actor needs no monument other than his character to live forever in the hearts of the people whom he inspired with the genius of his noble art. Yet here in New York, where he was so especially loved and admired, surely there should be some lasting monument to him as a testimonial of our appreciation and indebtedness.

In these days of dramatic degeneracy surely it is well that the fame and name of Edwin Booth should be cherished. It is often said of us by our critics that in our mad rush for things material we lose sight of higher things. In the failure thus far to honor the memory of Edwin Booth we do alike injustice to ourselves and to the art which he so glorified.

New York, March 16.

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TWO GREAT CAMPAIGNS. Mrs. Benton's Epigram, Speeches by Web-

ster and Clay's Defeat. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I see in your paper some reminiscences of the campaigns of 1840 and 1844. I remember in 1844 hearing a Meth-odist minister from Auburn speak. He was in great demand, and was so popular that he was appointed chaplain of Auburn State prison. He sed excellent arguments and told good stories. remember one. It seems Colonel Benton was very ndignant at Fremont's attentions to Jessie Benton and he was telling what he would do, and one thing was that he would "give him hell." His wife, who was a very mild woman, put her hand on his shoulder

and said: "Hadn't you better give him Jessie?"
In 1840 I rode with twenty other young men twenty-five miles to Francestown, N. H., to hear Webster speak. We got there early and heard ome of the best campaign singing that I ever heard. As it looked showery some people were afraid Webster might not come, although he spoke a Nashua the day before. But soon in the distance on the hill we saw a barouche drawn by four horses, and the cry arose, "There's Webster." After go ng slowly down the steep hill the horses galloped the valley and up the next hill, where hundreds of people had flocked to cheer.

Webster rose up a little, raised his hat and made the most majestic bow that I ever saw. His speech was received with great enthusiasm, for the people of New Hampshire were very proud of hir I next heard Webster in 1848, in Boston, in his great speech on the completion of the Bunker Hill Monument. The stand was facing the monument President Tyler and his Cabinet were on the plat-form; also a number of Revolutionary patriots.

many of whom were assisted up the steps. One hundred thousand people stood before Webster. When he was through gentlemen upon the platform ame up to shake bands and congratulate him. In the rear of the great mass of people on the side of Bunker Hill were scated 8,000 ladies, who waved their handkerchiefs when Webster closed. Some one called Webster's attention to the sea o handkerchiefs and he showed by his smile that he

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The old campaign songs of the '40s referred to by your correspondents recall to my mind the great grief and disappointment feit by the Whigs when the news was confirmed of the election of James K. Polk. Intelligence relating to the election was very slow in coming from the several States in th raliroad, ante-telegraph days, and the first returns showed that Henry Clay had certainly triumphed. When his defeat was at last really made known I emember seeing my father, who was seated in his ibrary, upon being told of the fact, take his bandanna handkerchief and putting it to his face cry like a child. He was then in his sixty-fourth year. and up to the time of his death, twenty-eight years subsequently, he never forgot the bitter frustration of his most sanguine hopes and expectations of the lection of his idolized American statesman, the

rifted, eloquent "Harry of the West." Is it not true that the political campaigns of 1840 and 1844 stirred up from the heart's deepest depths more feeling and enthusiasm exhibited in song and open emotion than any that preceded r have since followed them? NEW YORK, March 16.

Knicker-The car company makes you ask for transfer when you pay your fare. Bocker-Suppose they only gave it when

BOSTON SIMPLICITY.

Sweet Innecence and Lingering Bucelle Curiosity of Hubbites.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Every citizen of New York will feel pride in the picture your Boston correspondent "Aberjona" draws of the ineffable charm that pervades our town. The offer of the loan of an umbrella by a hotel clerk; the suave, gracious politeness of our street car conductors; the delicate consideration automobilists accord to pedestrians, the cleanliness of our streets and the order maintained therein; the modest, shrinking, self-abnegation of waiters at our restaurants in accepting tips: the joyous, conversational animation of audiences at our opera house during the performance, and the complimentary comparison between it and the Chicago Auditorium, &c.

"Aberjona's" letter confirms an impression I derived during a recent visit in Bo of the spontaneous, bucolic simplicity that animates the people of that town. While there I had occasion to call upon an acquaintance who lives in Beacon street, below quaintance who lives in Beacon street, below Charles, where there are houses on either side of the roadway. A bachelor of mature years, retired from business and a man of leisure, he occupies a large residence. At the left of a broad hall is a small reception room, where he habitually sits. The single window gives him an extensive outlook up and down the street. and down the street. We were engaged in desultory talk when the rumble of a cart was heard. It stopped, followed by the rattle of Instantly my acquaintance was on the alert, and with that spontaneous, genuine nterest in a neighbor's affairs so characteristic of New England towns, he exclaimed

interest in a neighbor's affairs so characteristic of New England towns, he exclaimed "Hello! There's J— gittin' in "mother ton o' coal. 'Pears to me he's burnin' a lot o' fuel this winter!"

This incident being closed, the conversation was resumed. It had not proceeded far when the sound of carriage wheels was heard, quickly followed by sudden cessation. My acquaintance took another look out of the window. 'Hello!' he eried as before. "There's a hack stoppin' at H—'s. In a moment an old man, with long gray ehin whiskers and carrying an old fashioned wedge shaped carpet bag of fifty years ago, got out of the vehicle. My acquaintance became exceedingly snimated. "Who's that, I wanter know' he said. 'By Jove! If it isn't H—'s father-in-law arrivin' from Maine. 'Pears to me the old man's comin' to Boston mighty often these days."

Now, what can be more captivating than this picture of a man, endowed with every material resource, sitting at a window of his residence in Beacon street, the most exclusive and fashionable thoroughfare of Boston, and finding enjoyment even in the most insignificant details of his neighbors' daily life! In what other town of its size other than Boston shall we find such engaing altruism, such sympathetically inquisitive interest in the doings of others?'

New York, March 16. Ingenuous.

Colored Supplements and Education.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: Mr. Loomis, through your columns, asks some one else to asy something about the colored supplements to the newspapers, and I am tempted to reply. I have a faint suspicion that Mr. Loomis was not altogether fronical, and that he and Mr. Jerome K. Jorome disagreed in their discussion of the educational value of such an addition to a newspaper, but their discussion of the suppaper. but that Mr. Jerome had something to say which

was worth hearing.

There is no doubt that both children and adults learn more accurately through the sense of sight than through any other sense. A lawyer who can draw can explain what he is trying to explain much better than one who cannot. Any one who has heard his children ask eagerly

for the colored page will appreciate its value

arousing the child's mind to a sense of color, aced with a keen criticism of its truth in companied with a seen chatching of the copying nature. Children, as adults, scorn the untrue, whether color or legends, but an exhibition of the false tends to education as well as an exhibi-tion of the true, even if to a lesser extent. The colored supplement, well colored and with

ood, wholesome, interesting legends, would be a oon to man, woman and child. The whole "nub" lies in what is illustrated and how well it is d NEW YORK, March 16. J. E. HINDON HYDE.

Whiskers in Town Politics. Sloux City correspondence St. Paul Dispatch. Whiskers may be an issue in the forthcoming eity campaign. They will be the shaggy cluster which adorn the physiognomy of Fred Lerch,

health officer.

officers associated with Lerch believe this im-penetrable hedge affords a too comfortable retreat for dangerous microbes. It is the duty of the health officer to maintain quarantines, and he is deadly disease is in progress. While he claims to take great care to disinfect his heard, there is grave doubt in the minds of the city physician and men about the police station that this is done.

in wealth, go down to Guatemala," remarked George T. Klink, who is just back from a trip to Central America. "The exchange on gold is twelve to one, which explains the joke. One of the first things I did when I landed in President Cabrera's realm was to change \$60 in gold to the currency the country, and they handed me \$720. I really hated to take the money. The illusion was quickly dispelled, however, when I started out to spend some of it. I procured a shave, a hair cut and a shine, and it made a surprisingly big hole in \$20 It's a pleasing illusion while it lasts, however. If you want to feel how it is to be a millionaire go

down there with a month's wages and buy a trunk

Russia's Lucky Strike. Russian newspapers say that a new oil field has been located in the Russian northeast in Europe, which promises to exceed in quantity the oil fields on the Caspian, while the quality is much superior. The Caspian oil is heavy, and, barrel for barrel, does not produce more than half as much illuminating oil as does the American crude oil. The new "find" is in the valley of the Pechora, about 300 miles south of the Arctic and 400 miles east by south from Archangel, in an uninhabited wilderness. At present the new field is unavailable, but about 400 to 500 miles of railway, connecting with a new line castward from St. Petersburg, will remedy that difficulty. Not only is oil in vast quantity reported, but it is said that the region abounds in copper mines.

Voice From British Columbia.

From the Victoria Colonist. The logical result of the policy of the Liberal Government in respect to imperial relations will be that in fifteen or twenty years more there will be complete separation from the mother country, with the crowning success of the application of the Mon-roe Doctrine to the whole of North America. The finger of fate, ubder Liberal rule, points as directly to consolidation with American interests and nationality as though it were painted in large letters at the doors of the Dominton capital:

"THIS WAY TO WASHINGTON." Modest Mr. Dolliver.

From the Congressional Record. Mr. Dolliver-I will say to my honored friend [Mr. Tiliman] that I have my first boast to make on this floor of being a great lawyer. I have not acquired the art of saying of one that he is the greatest lawyer in the world and of another that he is still greater, and then advancing my own opinion contradicting both.

Mr. Tillman-I admire the Senator's We all know that in the bottom of his soul he thinks he is as great a fawyer as either of t [Laughter.]

Snowshoes for Horses.

From the Steamboat Sentinel Charles McCormick, the janitor at Hahn's Peak, has perfected a set of web snowshoes for his horses, and is now doing daily stunts, very much to the amusement of those who are residing in the county seat this winter. It is said the horses soon become accustomed to the shoes and manipulate them with the same ease that a man does. Those who have watched the performance say that the scheme is

Brave Woman's Matrimonial Prospects. Morgiana had just sealed up the forty thieves. to marry a man who is afraid to look under the

Thus we may perceive that she had a rare insigh